

a comparator for comparing the light detected with a given threshold;
and a controller controlling an illuminator for illuminating the display in
dependence upon the output of the comparator, wherein the light detector is positioned to
receive a light level that represents the total light contributing to display illumination which
is the sum of the light received from the illuminator and the light incident on the display.

2. (Amended) A portable device according to claim 1 wherein the light detector is
located behind the display, remote from the surface of the display onto which the ambient
light is incident.

3. (Amended) A device claimed in claim 1 wherein the controller disables the
illuminator in response to an indication by the comparator that the light detected exceeds a
first threshold.

4. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the controller enables the
illuminator in response to an indication by the comparator that the light detected is less than a
second threshold.

5. A device as claimed in claim 3 wherein the controller enables the illuminator in
response to an indication by the comparator that the light detected is less than a second
threshold.

6. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the controller partially enables the illuminator in response to an indication by the comparator that the light detected is between the first and second thresholds.

7. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means for determining a change in output of the light detector over a predetermined period, wherein the control means is arranged to disable functionality relating to the display in response to an indication that no change is determined.

8. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the controller is arranged to disable the display in response to an indication that no change is determined.

9. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the controller is arranged to disable the illuminator in response to an indication that no change is determined.

10. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the display comprises input means responsive to a user.

11. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the controller controls the functionality relating to the display on the basis of settings input by the user via the input means.

12. (Amended) A device as claimed ⁱⁿ claim 10, wherein the input means comprises touch means, such as a key and/or display region.

13. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, which is a portable communications device such as a radiotelephone.

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14. (Amended) A method of controlling handportable device including a display and an illuminator for illuminating the display, the method comprising:

detecting a light level that represents the total light contributing to display illumination which is the sum of the light received from the illuminator and the ambient light incident on at least part of the display;

comparing the light detected with a given threshold; and

controlling illumination of the display in dependence upon the output of the comparator.

15. (Amended) A display module for an electronic device, the display module comprising

a display panel having a front face to be viewed by a user and a reverse face,

an illuminator for illuminating the display panel,

a light detector being positioned adjacent the reverse face of the display panel to detect light, which light is the sum of ambient light incident on at least part of the display and the light from the illuminator,

a comparator for comparing the light detected with a given threshold, and

a controller controlling the illuminator in dependence on the output of the comparator.

16. (Amended) A display comparing:

a display element;

a light detector for detecting the light incident on at least part of the surface of a display element; a comparator for comparing the light detected with a given threshold; and

a controller controlling an illuminator for illuminating the display in dependence upon the output of the comparator,

wherein the light detector is positioned to receive a light level that represents the total light contributing to illumination of the display which is the sum of the light received from the illuminator and the ambient light incident on the display.

IN THE ABSTRACT

N. E . Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22 line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A handportable device comprises a user interface, a light detector for detecting the light incident on at least part of the user interface, a comparator for comparing the light